



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Cold Regions Research &
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News Release

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Contact: Marie Darling

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Tele: (603) 646-4292

CRREL Program Enables Teacher/Student Team to Experience the Arctic

NOME, Alaska—On June 2, at 6:00 PM, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Sea* departed the port of Nome, Alaska, to embark on a 27-day cruise to study the Arctic Ocean. On board are Barrow High School teacher Mr. Tim Buckley and Aaron Putnam — a teacher/student team taking part in a science education program, Teachers Experiencing the Arctic (TEA).

This TEA program is directed by Dr. Debra Meese, an ice researcher with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory), and is funded by the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs and the Education and Human Resources Directorate.

Upon arrival at their destination within the Arctic Circle, Buckley and Putnam, with various crew members, (including on-board Chief Scientist Lisa Clough) will study the chemical and biological properties of ice and ice-entrained sediments. Their vessel, the *Polar Sea*, will allow them to get into the ice pack to collect samples for onboard analysis and later analysis in specialized labs at the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) located in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Those interested in monitoring the *Polar Sea*'s course and local weather conditions may do so via the Web at URL <http://www.oz.net/~polarsea/>. Another Web site of interest is the TEA web site at URL <http://www.glacier.rice.edu/chapter/tea/teaintroduction.html>. The vessel will be returning to port on June 28.

CRREL's mission is to gain knowledge of the cold regions through scientific and engineering research, and to put that knowledge to work for the Corps of Engineers, the Army, the Department of Defense, and the Nation. CRREL, headquartered in Hanover, New Hampshire, with a field office in Fairbanks, Alaska, is the only Department of Defense laboratory addressing problems and opportunities unique to the world's cold regions.

More information may be obtained by contacting Dr. Debra Meese at (603) 646-4594 or email: dmeese@crrel.usace.army.mil.

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